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1. Although my knowledge on such matters is limited, I believe that manufacturing of steel seamless tubes in the USSR has developed very little and volume of production does not meet existing demands. So far as I know, there are tube-rolling mills in Taganrog, Mariupol, Dnepropetrovsk and Magnitogorsk. A large and modern tube-rolling mill is in operation in the Novo-Tagilsky Metallurgical Plant in Nizhne-Tagilsk (Ural).
2. I know of only two machine-building plants in the USSR, which manufactured tube-rolling machinery before World War II: SKMZ (Staro-Kramatorsky Machine-Building Plant) in Kramatorsk manufactured small tube-rolling mills for cold reduction of tubes; UZTM in Sverdlovsk was engaged in building smaller tube-rolling machinery of the Stietel-system before World War II. I think that the majority of the tube-rolling equipment in the USSR was purchased abroad. [redacted] of tube-rolling mills of the Reckrite-system for a cold reduction of steel seamless tubes in ZsKBEM (by ZsNITMASH) in Moscow. I was told at that time that the drawings had been developed according to the most modern Swedish designs and did not differ from them essentially. Some rolling mills of that type were supposed to be built in the USSR in the near future. The plans had just been made. The mills were supposed to differ in capacity from the Swedish ones. So far as I remember, diameters of finished tubes were from one and one half to six inches, and the machines had to be of three or four different sizes. An engineer-designer of ZsKBEM, who was engaged with those mills, had spent all World War II in Sweden working as a receiver of equipment.

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I understood that he had received rolling mill equipment for cold rolling too. He had become acquainted with rolling mills of the Rockrite-system in Sweden. From the end of 1946 ZsKBMM began to work on projecting tube-rolling mills of the Stiefel-system for rolling steel seamless tube: in large sizes (so far as I remember, up to 400 mm or even more). The Mills of the Stiefel-system were manufactured by the plans of the Ministry of Heavy Machine-Building.

3. As there had been no experience in designing of mills of that type, Professor A I Zselikov sent some designers to study modern tube-rolling mills of the Stiefel-system and to select materials necessary for designing. Those designers had to work at two or three metallurgical plants in the USSR, where there were modern mills of the Stiefel-system.
The Novo-Tagilsky Metallurgical Plant was one of the plants which this group of designers selected to produce machines of the Stiefel-system. (the second plant was a metallurgical plant in one of the near-Sverdlovsk towns, the name of which I have forgotten).
The Novo-Tagilsky plant was supposed to manufacture three large mills of the Stiefel-system for use in the USSR, according to the project of the ZsKBMM.
The ZsKBMM had to complete the projecting of the mills by the end of 1947, and must have done it, as the work was considered to be very important.
4. It was said that the absence of seamless tubes set limited production in some branches of industry in the USSR. Things were especially bad in the oil industry where seamless tubes of large diameters were required.

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